

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 25, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 2, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 1997
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 5, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 112

**Introduced by Assembly Members Escutia, Gallegos, and
Villaraigosa**

**(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Migden and
Murray)**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alquist, Baca, Ducheny,
Havice, Keeley, Kuehl, Mazzoni, Martinez, Napolitano,
Perata, Shelley, Washington, Wildman, and Wright)**

(Coauthors: Senators Polanco, Solis, and Watson)

January 13, 1997

An act relating to health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 112, as amended, Escutia. Health care services.

Existing law provides for various preventive health care services programs.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, administered by the State Department of Health Services, under which qualified low-income persons are provided with health care services.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature that certain actions be taken with respect to Medi-Cal eligibility for certain teenagers, and the provision of preventive health care for persons 18 years of age or under.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) The state and federal governments, primarily
4 through the Medi-Cal program, fund many health care
5 programs for children.

6 (b) Nevertheless, more than 1,700,000 children in
7 California, ~~about 80 percent of whom are from working~~
8 ~~families,~~ remain uninsured. *Of these uninsured children,*
9 *close to 90 percent have at least one parent who works.*

10 (c) California ranks 42nd out of the 50 states in the rate
11 of children without health insurance, and 47th in federal
12 medicaid payments per person in poverty.

13 ~~(d) The state must take advantage of hundreds of~~
14 ~~millions of federal dollars available to the state to extend~~
15 ~~health insurance for working poor families and children.~~

16 *(d) California's uninsured children are relatively*
17 *inexpensive to cover compared to older populations.*

18 *(e) Federal dollars are available to match state dollars*
19 *to provide health coverage for children of low-income*
20 *working families.*

21 *(f) Furthermore, roughly 400,000 uninsured children*
22 *in the state meet the family income eligibility*
23 *requirements for Medi-Cal, but are not enrolled in the*
24 *program.*

25 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to do all of
26 the following:

27 (a) Expand Medi-Cal eligibility to include persons
28 ~~aged 14 to 19 years of age, inclusive up to 19 years of age,~~
29 and whose family income is not more than 133 percent of
30 the federal poverty level, by permitting these persons to

1 be eligible without a share-of-cost or an asset eligibility
2 requirement.

3 (b) Subject to the availability of funds, expand
4 Medi-Cal eligibility to include persons aged ~~14 to 18 years~~
5 ~~of age, inclusive~~ *18 years of age and under*, and whose
6 family income exceeds 133 percent, but is not more than
7 200 percent, of the federal poverty level, by permitting
8 these persons to be eligible without a share-of-cost or an
9 asset eligibility requirement.

10 (c) Subject to the availability of funds, expand
11 Medi-Cal eligibility to include persons aged ~~14 to 18 years~~
12 ~~of age, inclusive~~ *18 years of age and under*, and whose
13 family income exceeds 200 percent of the federal poverty
14 level, but does not exceed 300 percent of that level,
15 subject to a share-of-cost and an asset eligibility
16 requirement.

17 (d) ~~Require~~ *Subject to the availability of funds,*
18 *require* the State Department of Health Services to
19 provide preventive health services coverage for any child
20 under 18 years of age who is ineligible for the Medi-Cal
21 program or who does not have comprehensive health
22 care coverage under any other public program or
23 through private insurance.

24 (e) Require the State Department of Health Services
25 to revise the Medi-Cal eligibility application process to
26 encourage Medi-Cal eligible persons 18 years of age or
27 under to apply for Medi-Cal benefits.

